

SHELBY COUNTY WILL PAY STILL HEAVIER TAXES

Increase in Shelby Co. Assessment Under Law Will Run More Than for Rest of the State.

BIGGER RAISES ARE EXPECTED IN CITY
County Property Owners See
Stuck for 20 Per Cent
More Than They Have Been
Paying to State.

For many years Memphis and Shelby county have been paying about one-sixth of the entire state tax, a remarkable figure, they say, that comprises one-sixth of the actual values of the state.

It was hoped by the business interests of this county that under the new state assessment laws which go into

The agents of the state board of equalization have practically completed their work in all the counties except Shelby and Davidson.

In Shelby county outside of the city of Memphis the preliminary work has been finished, and it is stated that the general increase in the assessed

The present assessed valuation in the county proper, as of 1990, is \$1,699,940, or in round figures, \$1.7 million.

If that valuation is increased by state board of equalization by 300 cent, the total assessed valuation in the county proper, including the city, would be \$2,600,000.

Lower Tax Rate.

The new state assessment law, the companion law fixing a millage rate for taxation provides that an assessed value in excess of the state rate must automatically come off the total tax rate this year is 65 cents per \$100 of assessed value. If it is up to the county board to raise the rate, it is up to the county board to raise the rate to the state rate.

Of the state equalization board, it is estimated that the average increase in assessed valuations throughout the state this year is in round figures \$900,000,000.

estimate is correct that would in the long run reduce the value of the \$200,000,000, instead of \$800,000,000.

Under the provisions of that tax law, when the tax rate on the total assessed value of the city is set for public purposes.

Figuring on the county about to raise the tax rate the county to the state this year \$78,000.

If the Shelby assessment next year \$25,000,000, the county would pay a state tax of \$93,600, or \$1.10 per \$100 of assessed value.

That would be an increase in amount paid by the county taxpayers of 10 per cent.

But the taxpayers of the city of Memphis are likely to pay a still larger increase in taxes.

The city board of public works and the city board of public works is just beginning to work in the city proper. What the city board of public works will be, has not yet been determined.

However, estimates have been made by the city board of public works and the city board of public works that the increase in the city proper be greater than that in the county, and that the increase in the county be less than 10 per cent.

It remains to be seen.

Naturally, with the appraisal not completed in the city, and not finally no-

county proper, nothing but estimate can be used. Nevertheless, if the board's guess at the total state valuation, given above, is approximately correct, which would indicate a general increase in the entire state of 350 per cent, and an increase is made in Memphis and Shelby county of 300 to 350 per cent, it appears that Memphis and Shelby county will still be paying larger proportion of the entire

Square Deal Demanded.

state and county assessor, to William H. FitzHugh, president of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. FitzHugh Monday evening called the members of the taxation committee of the chamber together. After a brief conference authorized Elias Gates, the chair-

will be directed to go to Nashville look over the figures of the new payroll in all the counties of the state and then to visit a number of counties and make a personal in-

gation into the methods used in
riving at the new valuations, with
view to finding out whether the
creases made in Shelby county and
templated in Memphis are in line
the increases made in other coun-
of the state, particularly those in
the larger cities are located.

Mr. Gates and his committee will
play the statistician at once, as

done, the work shall be completed
speedily as possible, so that any c
plant that may be filed in the nam
the Chamber of Commerce shall
made before the figures in Mem
and Shelby county are completed
Gentle suggested.

Mr. FitzHugh said Tuesday nothing but a square deal is sound, but that every taxpayer in the state should be assured of that and that getting the figures and comparing them from other counties it can easily be computed whether or not that is a shelly count is getting.

The provisions of the new law that every piece of realty in the state must hereafter be assessed at its actual cash value. It has been found in many counties that the assessment

anywhere from 10 per cent to over 20 per cent more than 40 per cent of such actual value. It is also said that the increase in Knox, Hamilton and Davidson counties will be found to be fully as large as those thus far made in Shelby.

WYNNE, Ark., Dec. 2 (Spl.)—E. Dearing, aged 58, long identified in buildings circles, died at the home his son, James Dearing, here. He survived by a brother, James Dearing of Newark, Ark., and one son, of place. Interment at Cogbills cemetery.